



Footnotes¹

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Thinking about building a new library? Take advantage of the State Library's Building Consulting Grants

Since 1994, nearly 160 Iowa public libraries have made the most of their new building projects by getting professional advice from impartial consultants who provide guidance and recommendations to library staff, city officials and the community on the extent and complexity of a building project.

Grants up to \$2,500 are awarded by the State Library using federal Library Services and Technology Act funds. Lily Lau of East Central Library Services administers the program.

Sonia Hayek, director of the Toledo Public Library, noted that "the building consultant had excellent recommendations and was very helpful in sorting out many of the details about the layout and construction of the project. We feel much more confident."

Lau said the money from the Building Consulting Grants funds the very earliest stages of a building project which helps to ensure that the projects get off to a good start with expert advice.

"I was very pleased touring a new library that received a grant in 1997," said Lau. "A member of the tour, a librarian in a town that is currently in the building process, admired the work space and asked the host librarian how she managed to get such a large and efficient space for the staff." Lau said the librarian's reply was the building consultant's advice.

Bonnie McKewon, administrator of Northwest Iowa Library Services, said the building consultants have taken a lot of pressure off LSA staff.

"I love these grants because we just don't have the human resources any more to do much with building consulting. I will meet with local boards initially, those in the really early planning stages, to lay out the big picture. But I don't pretend to be able to take them much farther down the road. A building consultant can come into the picture and do so much to ensure a successful library construction project."

Dana Capaldo, library board president of the Polk City Community Library said the board used the space needs assessment and needs statement written by a library building consultant several times.

"As we went to the city council and the public, we used this document again and again to make the case for a new library. When we hired an architect, this document was certainly necessary in designing a new building."

Capaldo said that in 1994 the total budget for the library was around \$20,000.

"There was certainly no money in our budget, nor in the rest of the city budget for that matter, to fund the work of a library consultant. The Building Consulting Grant was what started us on our way to a new building. In February, 2005, we opened the doors to a new library."

LSTA Building Consulting Grants may be requested for the following services: space needs assessment of the current facility; library building process overview; evaluation of library sites; building program review; assistance in hiring an architect; American with Disabilities Act compliance; architectural drawing review; and funding consultation. LSTA funds may *not* be used to pay for an architect or engineering services.

More information about the Building Consulting Grants, including an application, is available at www.silo.lib.ia.us/for-ia-libraries/LSTA/building-consulting-grants.htm.



Polk City Community Library Ribbon Cutting.

FOOTNOTES

Iowa Libraries play a large part in early childhood development

Both the State Library and local public libraries have been deeply involved for years in early childhood learning. Examples of how the State Library of Iowa supports early childhood learning are described below. The State Library partners with the staff of the Library Service Areas to carry out many of these activities.

Pre-literacy curriculum for public librarians. The State Library developed and teaches a curriculum especially for public librarians on early childhood literacy development. This curriculum includes strategies for librarians to use with 3-5 year olds in developing “ready to read” skills in reading, language and writing development. Approximately 230 librarians attended the initial overview sessions on early literacy. In addition, follow-up workshops have been held to support individual strategies from the early literacy curriculum such as using nonfiction with preschool children, developing language skills in children and in story retelling. Approximately 250 Iowa public librarians have participated in some or all of the follow-up training sessions.

Summer reading program support. Iowa’s public library standards require that, to be eligible to receive state funding, a public library must provide a summer reading program for children 14 and younger, including preschoolers. Annually, the State Library and the Library Service Areas provide a theme, curriculum, resource materials and training for public library staff for their summer library programs. More than 500 public libraries attend the training sessions and offer a summer library program each year - and more than 129,000 Iowa children participate annually.

Public library outreach services to day care centers and preschools. When the State Library revised public library standards (“In Service to Iowa: Public Library Measures of Quality”) in 2004, the following standard was added: “The library offers outreach services to day care centers and other entities in which groups of preschool children gather....Outreach service includes collections and programming.”

Library as stakeholder in Early Childhood Iowa. The State Library of Iowa has been a stakeholder and regular participant since the beginning in Early Childhood Iowa, a group of committed advocates dedicated to developing a comprehensive system of programs and services for Iowa’s children ages zero to five.

Collaborative Training. The State Library of Iowa partnered with the Iowa Department of Education to offer “Building Blocks to Early Literacy” in spring 2004, a two-day conference for early child care providers, librarians, educators and others who work with preschool children. More than 250 attended.

Collaborative Training. The State Library is part of the “Every Child Reads: Ready to Read” work team at the Iowa Department of Education. The State Library youth services consultant, along with Department of Education consultant, provided “train the trainer” sessions to almost 500 people.

Collaborative Training. The State Library continues to partner with Iowa Public Television to train librarians to work with parents on early literacy development skills. Recently, librarians in 14 public libraries hosted training sessions for preschool parents on story retelling, which is an early literacy skill.

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FOOTNOTES

Iowa Libraries play a large part in early childhood development

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Statewide training. In 2004, the State Library planned and presented six statewide educational sessions featuring noted early childhood language consultant Jane Kitson, from Atlanta, Georgia. The topic of the training sessions was “Linking Language and Literacy Learning.” More than 600 people attended these sessions, including librarians, preschool teachers, AEA consultants, child care providers, and others who work with young children.

State Library programs and exhibits. The State Library has exhibited and presented programs about early literacy and libraries at the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children, Family and Consumer Science Association, and the Iowa Early Care, Health and Education Congress.

Iowa’s 543 public libraries are an integral part of early childhood learning. For many Iowa children, their local public library provides their first experiences with books, reading and literature. Staff of the Library Service Areas and the State Library support Iowa’s public libraries as they sustain early childhood learning in many ways:

- Most local public libraries offer preschool and toddler story times in the library and also in local preschools, child care centers and in child care homes.
- Many local public libraries offer book delivery to local preschools, child care centers and child care homes.
- A growing number of local public libraries offer or partner to present parent training opportunities on early literacy development.
- Many local public librarians are involved in local empowerment boards and early childhood coalitions in their communities.
- More than 500 public libraries each year offer summer reading programs for children from preschool through high school age. More than 129,000 Iowa children participate in these programs annually.
- Many public libraries sponsor or co-sponsor “Books for Babies” programs in which the parents of all newborn babies in the local community are given a book and information about early literacy development. Early childhood organizations and local hospitals are frequent partners with the libraries in these projects.
- In many Iowa communities, public library staff members are regularly asked to make presentations to groups of child care providers, Head Start employees, and other community organizations on early childhood literacy topics such as selection of books for young children.



*Jenny M., mother of three, Urbandale Public Library.
“We love all the books. I’m very impressed with all the children’s activities, the different workshops and the regular story times every week.”*

FOOTNOTES

After 33 years as library director, Rubis plans relaxing retirement

February 1 was the beginning of a new life for now former Fairfield Public Library Director, Jim Rubis. In his 33 years as director, Rubis saw the library's endowment grow from \$10,000 to \$400,000, and changes in what people want -- fewer books and more DVDs.

Rubis' perfect day may begin at 5:30 a.m. with a work out at the local recreation center, followed by a trip to the library to read the *Wall Street Journal*. From there he may head out to the farm and walk through snow looking for deer, turkey, fox and birds. Afternoons may find him listening to the blues and playing his electric guitar. Playing poker or curling up with a book in front of the woodstove would end the perfect day.

Enjoy it, Jim!



Certification update

Congratulations to the following public library staff certified for the first time through the State Library's Iowa Certification Program for Public Librarians.

Rhonda Behnken, Massena
Verla Benway, Ellsworth
Carolina Bredekamp, Preston
Imogene Bruner, Lamoni
Linda Crossland, Calmar
Michael Dargan, Waterloo
Lisa Gaylor, Dyersville
Jacallyn Gunzenhauser, Humeston
Laura Gustafson, Aurelia
Susan Hoskins, Wilton
Rebecca Huggins, Fairfield
Marilyn Johnson, Luverne
Krista Kloster, Keokuk
Mary Lahr, Delhi
Donna Mason, Emmetsburg
Mary Rinkleff, Fredericksburg
Angela Shirley, Oxford Junction
Mariana Snopek, Preston
Edna Stahley, Waucoma
Vicki Vroegh, Eddyville
Nyla Wobig, Des Moines

King named PTDL Fellowship Librarian

State Library staffer Karon King was selected as the 20th Patent and Trademark Depository Library (PTDL) Fellowship Librarian and will spend 2005 studying in Washington, DC.



Part of her training will include answering telephone queries from other PTDL libraries and learning the latest information on patents and trademarks. Fellowship librarians often go to library conferences and staff patent and trademark booths.

Said King, "I feel very fortunate to be chosen for this fellowship position. I'll be back in Iowa by 2006 with a lot more information to boost our own Patent and Trademark Library program at the State Library."

FOOTNOTES

The State Law Library: Smack-Dab In the Middle of the State Legislature

By Mandy Easter, Librarian II, State Law Library of Iowa

At 10 a.m. on Monday, January 10, 2005, the first day of the first session of the 81st General Assembly of Iowa was called to order.

The State Law Library is strategically located between the two chambers of the state legislature on the second floor of the state capitol. From this unique position, the three law library staff members become integral participants of every legislative session. The law library's front doors become a turnstile for hundreds of lobbyists who base their operations in the library's spacious interior and use the library to facilitate their daily frantic communications with clients. Legislative clerks, pages, interns, and even legislators themselves run in and out of the library all day long, asking for various and sundry documents and bits of information: *Do you have a map of Canada? Can I check out a general history of Iowa? Who was the chair of the Senate Education appropriations subcommittee in 1972? On what day did Governor Branstad deliver his "State of the State" address in 1986? Let me see the federal bankruptcy laws. Do you happen to have a basic statistics textbook?*

Iowans call us, send us e-mails and faxes, and stop in to ask myriad questions about the legislative process: *Who are my legislators and how do I contact them? I want to read a bill that was introduced yesterday; how do I find it on the Internet? I have a great idea for a new law; who should I call? I heard on the news that the Senate passed a bill; when does it take effect? When will the legislature debate a certain bill? When is the last day of the legislative session?*

Public librarians often field these questions, too. The State Law Library's staff is happy to provide guidance to other libraries and hopes that you feel comfortable referring patrons to us. In addition, many questions can be answered quickly and easily by directing customers to the Iowa Legislature's website at www.legis.state.ia.us. If you haven't already done so, take time to explore the General Assembly's home page and encourage the entire library staff to do the same. Its contents are updated daily and components are frequently moved around to accommodate demand, so we suggest that you regularly familiarize yourself with the website to better assist your customers.

Look under the headings "*Currently in the Senate*" and "*Currently in the House*" on the right side of the page. Patrons can click on "*Live Audio*" and listen to floor action in real time! They can also download daily schedules, daily lists of bills to be debated and weekly meeting calendars. From the home page, click on "*In the Chambers*" in the left-hand sidebar to see a text log of events in each chamber; the live chamber display board; a schedule of chamber events and meetings; session calendars; legislative rules of procedure; and codes of ethics (helpful when incredulous patrons ask, "Can they DO that?"). Notify your high school students and teachers that the Legislative Page application is posted on this website. Iowa juniors and seniors are eligible to apply to participate in the exciting annual process of a legislative session in Des Moines.

From the left-hand side bar on the home page, click on "*Educational*" to download informational brochures such as "*How a Bill Becomes a Law*," "*The Three Branches of Government*," "*State Symbols*" and "*Roster of State Officials*." Do the teachers in your community's schools know about these free pamphlets?

Click on "*Legislators*" for photos, contact information and lists of bills sponsored by individual senators and representatives. From this page, click on "*Find Your Legislator*" to conduct an interactive search; type in a patron's home address to get a list of names, addresses and telephone numbers for his or her federal and state legislators. Did you know that all legislators now have e-mail addresses? We've been told that most of them actually prefer to be contacted by e-mail! The "*Legislators*" page also contains voter maps and district information, including the redistricting legislation from a few years ago.

Click on "*Track Legislation*" and then choose one of the methods under "*Find a Bill*" to read the text and history of all bills introduced—including proposed amendments and votes—from the current legislative session. For your dedicated legislative observers who are following particular issues, recommend the "*Bill Watch*" feature to create customized lists of bills to be tracked automatically. Some patrons will be particularly interested in clicking on the "*Fiscal Analysis of Bills*" item. Students and teachers will find clicking on the "*Legislative Lingo*" button especially entertaining. Click on "*Archives*" to find information on bills from previous sessions.

Click on "*Publications*" to download the Annual State Budget Analysis, House and Senate journals, yearly bill summaries and interim calendars. Library patrons are typically interested in reading the popular publication "*Fiscal Facts*," as well as the quarterly revenue estimates, monthly revenue memos, fiscal notes, contracts, requests-for-proposals, and of course, the often-quoted "*State Employee Salary Book*." All of these are available on the "*Publications*" page.

Remember that the State Law Library is a valuable conduit to information about the state legislature's activities. When a request for legal or legislative information has you stumped, call us directly or refer your customers to us at 515-281-5124 or 1-800-248-4483; leave a voicemail message after hours. If you or your customers prefer, send us an e-mail at law@lib.state.ia.us or fax a question to us at 515-281-5405.

FOOTNOTES

Important Dates - 2005

February

February 25 - Applications for Public Library Management 1 and 2 due

March

March 1, 2, 3 – Summer Library Program Workshops

March 2 – ILA Legislative Day

March 10 – Young Adult Summer library Workshop

March 17 – Planning and Promoting Your Summer Library Program

Iowa Heritage Digital Collections site makes it debut

The new Iowa Heritage Digital Collections web site is up and running at <http://iowaheritage.lib.uiowa.edu>. The site is envisioned as an online collection of Iowa history and culture created by bringing together documents, images, maps, finding aids, interpretive and educational materials, and other media from collections held by a wide range of organizations throughout Iowa, including colleges and universities, public libraries, schools, historical societies, museums, archives and other appropriate groups. Access to the Iowa Heritage Digital Collections will enable searching across these multiple collections while at the same time maintaining the identity of each individual organization. State Library staffer Barb Corson served on the committee that developed the site.

The site's goals are to:

- establish a collaborative structure among the state's libraries, schools, historical societies, museums, archives and other cultural heritage organizations to coordinate and guide the initiative
- create an open, publicly accessible virtual collection relating to Iowa history and culture
- demonstrate the viability and value of developing electronic resources in libraries, schools, archives, and museums to further the state's economic development
- identify ongoing and planned digitization projects relating to Iowa's cultural heritage
- establish basic criteria and standards based on best practices
- provide the technical infrastructure for persistence and sustainability of electronic collections
- develop training assistance and other resources necessary to enable a diverse range of organizations, of varying size and means, from throughout the state to participate in the initiative
- encourage preservation of original materials selected for electronic distribution
- actively seek funding to establish and maintain this initiative.

FOOTNOTES

Florida study finds that public libraries return \$6.54 for every \$1.00 invested

The comprehensive study to assess taxpayer return-on-investment in Florida's public libraries used a variety of data collection and analysis methods, including the public library annual data reports to the State Library and Archives of Florida, a statewide household telephone survey of adults, in-library surveys of adults, a follow-up survey of the libraries, surveys of organizations, such as businesses and schools, and an input-output econometric model. Key findings:

- Overall, Florida's public libraries return \$6.54 for every \$1.00 invested from all sources.
- For every \$6,448 spent on public libraries from public funding sources in Florida, one job is created.
- For every dollar of public support spent on public libraries in Florida, gross regional product increases by \$9.08.
- For every dollar of public support spent on public libraries in Florida, income (wages) increases by \$12.66. View the report <http://webjunction.org:980/wj/documents/8495.pdf>.

Check out “WebJunction” for great ideas on this year’s summer library program

WebJunction Iowa is offering an online discussion forum about the summer library theme “Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds.” This is an opportunity to share programs, plans and ideas about the summer theme with Iowa Librarians and those in other states. It is easy to participate; just follow these instructions if you aren't already registered with WebJunction Iowa. (The forum is being hosted by Connecticut, who is also a member of WebJunction and the Collaborative Summer Library Program.)

In order to participate go to <http://ia.webjunction.org/do/Home>.

You will need to register to be a part of this forum and other programs that WebJunction Iowa offers. So, on the right side of the screen, click register. You will need to create a “username” and “password.” (One thing to remember when registering is to be sure to choose “IOWA” at the “Community Partner Affiliation” question.)

Complete the information and give WebJunction a little time to process your registration. Once you are registered, go back to this website and log in: <http://ia.webjunction.org/do/Home>

Follow this path to the Dragons, Dreams and Daring Deeds Forum:

Click at the top of the page on “Community Center.”

Click on the side of the page on “All Aboard.”

Scroll down the page and click on “Library Services and Instruction.” Then, the fifth forum down should be “Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds.”

WebJunction Iowa is an online community where library staff in Iowa meet to share ideas, solve problems, take online courses - and have fun. We're part of a network of WebJunction communities. The State Library of Iowa funds Iowa's membership in this online opportunity.

FOOTNOTES

ALA announces award winners

Cynthia Kadohata, author of *Kira-Kira*, and Kevin Henkes, illustrator and author of *Kitten's First Full Moon*, are the 2005 winners of the John Newbery and Randolph Caldecott medals, the most prestigious awards in children's literature.

Three Newbery Honor Books were also named: *Al Capone Does My Shirts*, by Gennifer Choldenko; *The Voice that Challenged a Nation: Marian Anderson and the Struggle for Equal Rights*, by Russell Freedman; and *Lizzie Bright and the Buckminster Boy*, by Gary D. Schmidt.

In addition, the three Caldecott Honor books were *The Red Book*, illustrated and written by Barbara Lehman; *Coming on Home Soon*, illustrated by E.B. Lewis, written by Jacqueline Woodson; and *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*, illustrated and written by Mo Willems.

Toni Morrison, author of *Remember: The Journey to School Integration*, and Kadir Nelson, illustrator of *Ellington Was Not a Street*, are the winners of the Coretta Scott King Award.

Craig named Iowa City's Person of the Year

With 30 years of service at the Iowa City Public Library that included overseeing an \$18.4 million renovation and expansion to the building, it seems only fitting that library director Susan Craig was named the Iowa City Press-Citizen's 2004 Person of the Year.



Always an avid library user and advocate, Craig said, "Libraries are place where people have unlimited access to answers, one of the first places a child can go and experience the freedom and authority of choice."

"I was thrilled to receive the award," said Craig. "I think it represents the important place the library plays in the Iowa City community which makes me very proud. I am really the 'figurehead' for the whole project to expand the library and the many, many board members, volunteers and staff who had a part in it."

First Lady honors school librarians, AEAs

Twelve Iowa teacher-librarians were recently honored with Glass Apple Awards by First Lady Christie Vilsack.

The Glass Apple, an initiative of Mrs. Vilsack's Iowa Stories 2000 Foundation, was created to recognize and honor the hard work and dedication of the individual recipient as well as call attention to the hundreds of caring, committed teacher-librarians around the state that play a vital role in educating Iowa's children.

"Teacher-librarians...are remarkable people who devote their energy, time and talents to helping students find, evaluate and use the information they gather from the many resources offered in a school library media center," said Vilsack.

Recipients of the Glass Apple awards are Rick Valley (Decorah High School), Tom Youngblut (Osage High School), Bev Schumann (Hartley-Melvin-Sanborn Elementary School), Judy Havlik (Algona High School), Sue Ferrell (Truman Elementary School, Davenport), Tiffany Miller (Wilkins Elementary School, Marion), Carol Van Hook (Southeast Polk High School, Runnells), Nancy Touil (East Middle School, Sioux City), Ann Dea (Woodrow Wilson Jr. High School, Council Bluffs), Jan Chambers (Clarke High School, Osceola), Sue Kientz (Fairfield High School), and Erica MacBeth (Corse Elementary School, Burlington).

Vilsack said she also recognizes the important role that educators from the Area Education Agencies play in providing ongoing professional training for teacher-librarians and updating resources and information available to students, faculty and parents at school library resource centers.



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Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes December 6, 2004 - State Library of Iowa

Present: Paul Roberts, Monica Gohlinghorst, Dale Ross, Eldon Huston, Berta Van Ekeren, and Pam Pfitzenmaier
Staff: Mary Wegner, Sandy Dixon, Annette Wetteland, Barb Corson, Carol Simmons, Judy Jones, Marie Harms, Mary Cameron, Beth Henning
Guest: Barb Shultz
Ross called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m.

1.0 Set Agenda

Set as presented.

2.0 Approve Minutes

Approved as presented.

3.0 Financial Report

Wegner reported that the State Library is on target with both state and federal funds. She noted that state of Iowa receipts are currently about six percent higher than this time last year. She also said that State Library funding has not increased in three years, and annually is more than 30% (\$557,000) below FY01 funding.

4.0 Communications

A. Special Reports

1. Public library's role in early childhood literacy - Mary Cameron

Wegner told the Commission that the Governor's emphasis this coming year is on early childhood literacy and education. Cameron explained her role as youth services librarian and how her work closely relates to the Governor's message. Cameron has developed and taught a curriculum especially for public librarians on early childhood literacy development, which includes strategies for librarians to use with young children in developing "ready to read" skills. Follow-up workshops have also been held, with more than 250 Iowa public librarians participating in these sessions. Cameron's annual workshops on summer reading programs in libraries will begin in February. More than 500 public libraries attend the summer reading program each year, and more than 129,000 Iowa children participate in public library summer reading programs every year. Cameron also presents a session on youth services and libraries at each Public Library Management 2 class. She has collaborated with the Iowa Department of Education, Iowa Public Television and others to provide training sessions for librarians, child care educators and others. Wegner said that Cameron has done an excellent job of training Iowa librarians to provide high-quality services to young children and also in positioning Iowa libraries to be an integral part of early childhood learning in their communities.

B. Commission Reports

Pfitzenmaier said she has been named director for Early Childhood Programs in the Department of Education. Ross asked what will become of the Virtual Academy and Pfitzenmaier said it is ongoing and that she is still involved. Roberts said he has been part of the OCLC Task Force that would be reported on later in the meeting. He noted that the Dubuque Library Consortium is still in existence and recently met in Plattville, WI. He said several Wisconsin libraries are interested in joining the group. Gohlinghorst reported that she had attended an ICN session on the special library levy and thought it was very informative. She said she thought the best way to proceed would be to have a specific purpose for the funds. She noted that the All Iowa Reads committee will have an ICN session on January 27 and that the Letters About Literature program is in full swing. Gohlinghorst said the Council Bluffs Public Library is sending paperback books to troops in Afghanistan. Van Ekeren said the Friends of Monroe Public Library have raised approximately three fourths of the money needed to pay for a new library. She also noted that every year the Monroe library sends new books home with pre-school children who sign up at kindergarten round-up. She said she is reading and doing crafts with a pre-school group at the library this year and is also writing an article about the library for the local newspaper. Van Ekeren expressed concern over library funding issues involving rural residents in Jasper County. This led to a short discussion regarding the 27 cent library levy. Ross reported that he participated in the interviews for the two Program Coordinator positions at the State Library.

FOOTNOTES

Iowa Commission of Libraries - Minutes December 6, 2004 - State Library of Iowa (Cont.)

C. State Librarian's Report

Wegner started her report by introducing Marie Harms to the Commission. She then asked Harms to give an overview of her work experiences in the last five years. Harms said that she is very pleased to be back at the State Library as a library consultant. Wegner then reported that Sandy Dixon and Barbara Corson had been hired as Program Directors for Library Development and Library Services, beginning December 17. Wegner also informed the Commission of the retirement of Linda Maurer which is effective December 31. Karon King, who works with patents and trademarks, has been invited by the federal patents office to complete a one-year fellowship in Washington, D.C beginning in January. The agency will pay King's salary and will provide funds to hire a temporary replacement. Wegner distributed a handout regarding the Miller Building holiday activities and invited the Commission to attend. She noted that staff are working on several annual reports. Wegner said she has been invited to serve with a group of state librarians working with the IMLS leadership to plan guidelines for the next five-year evaluation. She will attend the first meeting on January 5 and another session in May.

Corson reported that she was invited by Libraries for the Future to New York City to discuss the State Library's HealthInfoIowa web site. She also noted that in March, two librarians from Bulgaria will come to the U.S., and that several Iowa and Colorado librarians will go to Bulgaria in May as part of the American-Bulgarian Library Exchange (ABLE) project. Dixon said she will be responsible for continuing education until the State Library hires a new consultant. Gates training will continue this spring with topics including: Technical Support on the Fly, Internet Tool Kits for Kids, Internet and Computer Use Policies, and Using the Internet for Reference. The State Library is working with BCR to provide the training. Huston asked if the laptops that were purchased with Gates funds would be used in training and Dixon assured him they would be. Henning reported on the State Data Center and preliminary state and county population numbers. She said the numbers show a slow but steady growth. She also reported that domestic business employment is down and entrepreneurship are up. Cameron reported she had presented at the Iowa Association of School Boards conference regarding school librarians. Ross commented that Iowa has better data on school libraries than any other state.

D. Library Service Area Report - Barbara Shultz, Administrator, North Central LSA

Shultz reported that the north central region has a cooperative multi-type group of librarians that has been in existence for more than 20 years. They plan to bring in Sandra Nelson, who developed the Planning for Results process, to speak at their annual August conference. Shultz said she encourages her libraries to look at their communities and identify services that are needed. The North Central LSA gave 20 scholarships to librarians to attend the ILA fall conference in Sioux City. Comments from participants were very positive. She noted that all the LSAs had received \$400 grants from the Iowa Library Trustees Association for training programs. Ross said that the grants would be ongoing as long as funds are available.

5.0 Public Comment

None

6.0 Action Items

A. Name bylaws review subcommittee

Ross selected Gohlinghorst and Boyd to review the bylaws. He asked Wegner and Simmons to get copies of the bylaws to them.

B. Finalize meeting schedule for 2005

The following dates were selected for 2005 Commission meetings: February 14, April 11, June 14 (changed from last meeting), August 8-9 (retreat and meeting in Perry), October 25, and December 13.

7.0 Discussion Items

A. OCLC Task Force update

The OCLC Task Force is still discussing the feasibility of the OCLC bid. Wegner will contact OCLC to see if a lower-cost bid is possible. The next task force meeting is scheduled for March 11.

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(Cont.)

B. Preview of 2005 legislative session

Wegner distributed information on the 2005 Iowa Library Association legislative agenda. ILA plans two contacts with legislators: a "Lobby from Home" Day on February 16, and the annual legislative reception on March 2. The legislative briefing will be held at the State Library

C. Status of Gates Staying Connected Grant

The State Library has been formally notified that it has received the \$749,000 Gates Staying Connected grant. Wegner and Wetteland are working with the Gates Foundation to plan the announcement. Ross and Wegner emphasized that the grant does not provide funds for the State Library's operating budget, but it makes it possible for the State Library to support public libraries in their efforts to provide public access computing.

8.0 Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: February 14, 2005, State Library